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GEORGE W. LITTLE & ASSOCIATES, INC.
INSURANCE CONSULTANTS - BROKERS

GEORGE W. LITTLE
PRESIDENT

January 22, 2002

Renata Hesse
Trial Attorney
Antitrust Division
Department of Justice
601 D Street NW, Suite 1200
Washington, DC 20530
Fax: 202-616-9937

Dear Ms. Hesse:

I have been involved in business, industry and economic development for over thirty years. Over that period of time, I have come to understand that a quality education system, a solid public infrastructure and a strong free market system are the keys to economic development in North Carolina and across America.

Virtually every societal institution which is vital to economic development has benefited from the proliferation of technological advances in the past decade. Leading the way in innovative technology is Microsoft. Their products have benefited businesses by saving countless hours of time and making communications between businesses seamless.

Microsoft's benefits to the education system are tremendous. Research, class instruction and other benefits have been realized through application of these useful tools. Governmental institutions also rely on Microsoft to maximize their efficiency and serve the public in a responsive manner.

For these reasons, I am gratified that federal government and the Microsoft have agreed to a settlement in their antitrust case. Microsoft will be able to focus its energies once again on research and development, while the government is granted unprecedented oversight into Microsoft's operations. Under this settlement, economic development wins, and so do the American people.

I hope that Judge Kollar Kotelly will approve the settlement.

Sincerely,

